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## Current Events

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[Edited by Clarence W. Gleason, Roxbury Latin School, Boston, Mass., for the territory covered by the Association of New England and the Atlantic States; Daniel W. Lothman, East High School, Cleveland, Ohio, for the Middle States, west to the Mississippi River; Walter Miller, University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo., for the Southern States; and by Frederick C. Eastman, the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, for the territory of the Association west of the Mississippi, exclusive of Louisiana and Texas. News from the Pacific Coast may be sent to Miss Juliann A. Roller, Franklin High School, Portland, Ore., and to Miss Bertha Green, Hollywood High School, Los Angeles, Cal. This department will present everything that is properly news—occurrences from month to month, meetings, changes in faculties, performances of various kinds, etc. All news items should be sent to the associate editors named above.]

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### Florida

The first meeting of the Association of South Florida Latin Teachers for the current year was held in the Hillsboro High School building, Tampa, on Saturday, November 18. The morning session was taken up with the business of reorganization. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. E. R. Spence, Lakeland; Vice-President, Miss Elizabeth Smith, Bartow; Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Annie Aaron, Plant City; Reporter, Miss Rennie Peele, Clearwater.

The afternoon session was taken up with a discussion of ideals and plans for the year's work. Those leading the discussion were Miss Evans of St. Petersburg, Mr. Spence of Lakeland, Messieurs Robinson and Cook of Tampa.

High ideals were set, and helpful plans proposed; these were met by the members of the Association in a spirit that promises much of achievement for the cause of Latin in south Florida schools.

### Illinois

*Annual High-School Conference at the University of Illinois.*—Teachers of Latin and Greek in the colleges, normal schools, and high schools of Illinois met on Friday, November 25, at the University of Illinois in the annual conference conducted by that institution.

The program arranged by the executive committee, of which Miss Bouldin of Springfield was chairman, follows: "Non-essentials in the Teaching of First- and Second-Year Latin," Miss Margaret Hubbard, Carlinville; "The Springfield-Laboratory-Recitation Method of Teaching Latin," Miss Ethel Jean Luke, Springfield; "Report of the Committee on Library Equipment," Miss Ada Stewart, Peoria; "Report of Committee on Fourth-Year Latin," Miss Jessie Lummis, Normal School, Normal; "Value of Talks on Archaeology," illustrated with slides, Miss Helen Baldwin, Joliet.

The paper by Miss Luke aroused keen interest. It described a new phase of supervised study which is being developed in the Springfield High School under the direction of the principal, Mr. I. M. Allen.

The Classics Committee submitted for the conference of 1917 consists of Miss Loura B. Woodruff of Oak Park, Miss Harriet L. Bouldin of Springfield, and Miss Jessie Lummis of Normal.

### Indiana

*Rushville High School.*—Miss Nelle M. Baldwin of the Latin department writes: I suppose every teacher when teaching the famous bridge of Caesar tries to have a miniature bridge to explain the structure. For some classes the reading of the comparison of the ships of the Veneti and the Romans and of the description of the bridge is a great task. Two years ago last May one of my Caesar students suggested the building of a real bridge, since we had a miniature bridge. I rather doubted whether he could do this, but, with the help of other members of the class, the picture in our texts, and the description as given by Caesar, he made a fine bridge. We were unfortunate, however, in the selection of the location for the bridge and had to destroy it after its completion as it obstructed the stream.

Last May another ambitious Caesar student wanted to build a bridge. I appointed him chief engineer and he was to call on any Caesar or Freshman Latin student. Of course the girls wanted to help to do something, so it was arranged that when the bridge was completed they should take the supper and we would celebrate at the bridge. Our chief engineer had more volunteers than he could use, and the bridge was completed after about two and a half-days' work. The bridge was thirty feet long and the water, where it was built, was from two to three feet deep. Our picnic at the bridge was given and everyone was proud of the work.

### Iowa

About 100 teachers were present at the Latin Teachers' Round Table of the Iowa State Teachers' Association at Des Moines on Friday, November 3. Following is the program (Leader, Professor F. C. Eastman, State University; Secretary, Julia Padmore, Des Moines High School): "Latin in the Grades," Helen M. Eddy, University High School, Iowa City; "What Means I Have Found Most Effective in Vitalizing Latin," 3-minute talks by Latin teachers. Session of the Auxiliary Section of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, Professor C. N. Smiley, Grinnell College: "Latin a Living Language," Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Washington, D. C.

The session was unusually interesting; discussion was prompt and to the point. Dr. Wiley's address particularly held attention. Through the efforts of the Latin department of the state university Dr. Wiley came into the state with three significant addresses on the value of Latin: one at the state university on November 1 entitled "The Practical Value of Latin in Education and

the Professions"; one on the main program of the State Teachers' Association with the caption, "The School of the Future: Its Language and Sanitation," the first part of which was devoted to the interests of Latin, and a third address before the Latin Round Table as noted above. Professor John A. Scott of Northwestern University, upon invitation of the Latin Round Table, gave a short but inspiring address.

A regular annual census made by Professor F. C. Eastman, of the state university, shows a remarkable increase in the number of students in Latin in the high schools of Iowa for the current year. The figures given below for the academic year 1914-15 show the number of pupils in 379 schools who were taking Latin. Exactly the same schools were addressed this year. Up to the present date replies have been received from 329 only, but these show an increase as follows:

First-year Latin.....	{ 1914-15.....	4,812
	{ 1915-16.....	5,344
	{ 1916-17.....	7,794
Second-year Latin.....	{ 1914-15.....	3,127
	{ 1915-16.....	3,438
	{ 1916-17.....	5,074
Third- and Fourth-year Latin.....	{ 1914-15.....	1,665
	{ 1915-16.....	1,448
	{ 1916-17.....	1,829
Total.....	{ 1914-15.....	9,736
	{ 1915-16.....	10,356
	{ 1916-17.....	14,697

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Iowa State Hellenic Society was held in Des Moines on November 3, President Sherman Kirk, Drake University, presiding. An interesting paper was read by Professor Joanna Baker of Simpson College on "Greek as Used in the Newspapers," and Professor John A. Scott of Northwestern University, president of the Classical Association of the Middle West and South, spoke before the society on "The Poetic Economies of the *Odyssey*." The meeting was well attended and very enjoyable.

Election of officers resulted in the choice of Professor W. S. Ebersole, Cornell College, as president; Professor Clara E. Millerd, Grinnell College, as vice-president; Professor W. E. Berry, Penn College, as secretary; Professor Joanna E. Baker, Simpson College, as treasurer; and Professors F. O. Norton of Drake University, W. R. Van Ness of Dennison, and C. H. Weller of the University of Iowa, as additional members of the Executive Committee.

By invitation of Drake University the spring meeting of the society will be held at Des Moines.

### Nebraska

At the Latin section of the Nebraska State Teachers' Association, held at Omaha November 9, the following program was given: "Teaching Pupils How to Study Latin," Miss Jessie Jury, High School, Lincoln; Latin Play, *Roma Non Delenda Est*, under the direction of Miss Susan Paxson, Latin department of the Central High School, Omaha.

Miss Jury's paper gave an unusually clear and keen discussion of the difficulties pupils find in studying Latin, and offered definite, concrete suggestions as to how they can be met.

Miss Paxson's play was a remarkable performance. The enunciation of the young players was so perfect and their interpretation of the lines so intelligent that the audience could follow the play about as well as if it had been given in English. The long and difficult part of Cicero was given in an extraordinarily dignified and convincing way. The educational value of giving such plays cannot be overestimated. Pupils who can master lines made up of periodic sentences, or who can listen to them understandingly, will probably never have much trouble with Latin word-order. Miss Paxson's play is a dramatization of the Catilinarian conspiracy.

### Ohio

The following program was rendered at the Latin Section of the Central Ohio Teachers' Association, held in Columbus, Ohio, Friday and Saturday, November 10 and 11: "Impressions of the Classical Conference held at Columbia University, Summer 1916," Harriet R. Kirby, North High School, Columbus; "Acquisition of a Vocabulary in First-Year Latin Work," Marie Rottermann, Stivers High School, Dayton; "What Shall We Emphasize in Third-Year Latin?" Dr. A. W. Hodgman, Ohio State University; "Collateral Work in Virgil," Augusta Connolley, West High School, Columbus; "What Shall We Do to Stimulate a Desire for More Than Two Years of Latin?" Carrie B. Allen, Newark High School, Newark.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Mr. Charles B. Sayre, North High School, Columbus, Ohio; Secretary, Miss Lulu Cumback, Springfield, Ohio.

*Columbus.*—The Columbus Latin Club held its fall meeting on the evening of Saturday, November 25, at the Hotel Chittenden. The speaker on that occasion was Professor Louis E. Lord of Oberlin College, who delivered an illustrated lecture on "Sicily." The lecture was preceded by a dinner, at which fifty persons were present. At the club's first meeting, November 24, 1909, there were twenty-seven present; thus it can be seen that it is still growing in interest. The officers are planning to give a Latin play at the May meeting.

### West Virginia

*Charleston High School.*—In club work when all classes are represented in one organization, there is a lack of unity of interest and pride of ownership. Hence we have four organizations among the Latin classes. The following is the plan of the Freshman Club.

Each of the three classes elects two officers, a *dux* and a *rex* or *regina festivitatis*. The *dux* is business manager for his class in all meetings that the class holds separately. At the beginning of each month he appoints squad captains, *legati legionum*, and these choose their squads in class. A little of the club work carried over into the class period is wholesome. The three *reges* or *reginae festivitatis* work together as social managers.

These six officers elect an *imperator* who presides over the general monthly meetings. These seven officers hold business meetings also at which the *imperator* presides. All business conducted in these meetings must be ratified by the individual classes, before it goes into effect, and is presented to them by their individual *dux*. In business meetings the *imperator* appoints one of the seven to serve as secretary. Each class has an individual *scriba* who keeps a record of what is done by that class. This book is kept where all may consult it.

The remainder of the work is by the squad plan. These squad captains are appointed in class by the *dux* on the school day following the monthly meeting, unless for any reason the teacher postpones it. The captains choose their squads at once, with a keen eye to the ones who proved "dead-heads" the previous month. At the end of the month, the squad making the highest number of honors in club work is "treated" by the other squads.

Squad honors are counted as follow:

Any squad winning in a vocabulary contest counts . . . . .	5
Any squad winning in a verb or declension contest counts . . . . .	5
A walk (by not less than three squad members) for the first mile count . . . . .	1
For each additional mile counts . . . . .	2
(Squad members are called <i>pedites</i> .)	
Letters for club work or typewriting (by not less than three members) count . . . . .	5
A Latin play counts . . . . .	10
An English play about Romans or of classical interest counts . . . . .	10
A Latin song counts . . . . .	8
A Latin poem counts . . . . .	8
A picture about Romans or of classical interest, impersonated, counts . . . . .	7
An original joke or story in Latin counts . . . . .	5
An original number of any kind of classical interest counts . . . . .	5
Squad attendance counts for each member present at monthly meeting . . . . .	2

A teacher will always be surprised by the good material that the students present when they work in squads. Two little original plays, written in Latin, have been given at this school. One is the tragedy of Julius Caesar, *as it did not happen*, in which Calpurnia and Portia are the *deae ex machina*. The squad work of the club adds much to the zest for the regular classroom work.